

MASONRY RETAINING WALLS

The City of Chula Vista requires a permit for the construction of retaining walls, **except** those less than three feet in height and not supporting surcharge. This publication outlines the city's requirements for retaining walls with level backfill, with sloping backfill and with vehicular surcharge.

If construction does **not** involve grading, contact the Building Division of the Planning & Building Department for information on how to obtain a permit for a retaining wall (619-691-5272). If construction **does** involve grading, contact the Engineering Division of the Public Works Department (619-691-5024).

1. INSPECTIONS

You must call the City for inspections after several specific phases of construction. To schedule an inspection for a retaining wall permit having a permit number starting with a "B", call the Building Division at (619) 691-5009. For permit numbers starting with "PG", call the Engineering Division at (619) 585-5737. Please call for these inspections at the following times, and do not proceed to the next phase of construction until the City inspector has given you written approval to proceed:

- A. Call for a **footing inspection** after you have made the excavation for the footing, tied the steel securely in its final position, and made the site ready for concrete placement. Do not place concrete until the City inspector has given you written approval to proceed.
- B. Call for a **masonry pre-grout inspection** after you have laid the block and have set the reinforcing steel in place, but before you place the grout. Do not lay blocks higher than 6 feet without a pre-grout inspection.
 1. If cleanout holes are required, lay the block to the full height of the grout pour before you call for the pre-grout inspection. Place grout in a continuous pour in grout lifts not more than 4 feet in height.
 2. If cleanout holes are not required, call for a masonry pre-grout inspection prior to each grout pour. Do not lay block higher than the grout pour. Note that cleanouts are required for all grout pours over 5 feet in height.
- C. Call for a **backfill/drainage inspection** after grouting is completed and rock or rubble wall drains are in place, but before earth backfill is placed.
- D. Call for a **final inspection** after you have completed the construction and, if the City has required one, after a licensed professional has prepared a compaction report. (See Section VII).

Revised:	Original approval date:	CITY OF CHULA VISTA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	
	Redrawn By: CVM Date: 9-25-01		
	<i>Clifford Johnson</i>	RETAINING WALL REQUIREMENTS PUBLICATION OUTLINES	CVCS 30 SH. 1 OF 6
	CITY ENGINEER Date: 12/10/01		
	<i>Brad Remp</i>		
	BUILDING OFFICIAL Date: 12/10/01		